RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
FEB 2 6 2007

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing replaces all prior versions.

1. (Canceled).

2. (Currently amended) ~~A method for determining active plasminogen activator inhibitor-Type 1 (PAI-1) in a biological fluid, the method comprising the steps of:~~

~~(i) providing a sample of a biological fluid selected from the group consisting of whole blood, plasma and serum;~~

~~(ii) measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample; and~~

~~(iii) determining the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid by correlating the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid to the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample~~ ~~The method of claim 1~~, wherein measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample comprises:

(a) contacting the sample either simultaneously or stepwise with a first antibody which binds selectively to PAI-1 and a labelled second antibody which binds selectively to multimeric vitronectin; and

(b) determining the second antibody bound to the complex to measure the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample.

3. (Currently amended) ~~A method for determining active plasminogen activator inhibitor-Type 1 (PAI-1) in a biological fluid, the method comprising the steps of:~~

~~(i) providing a sample of a biological fluid selected from the group consisting of whole blood, plasma and serum;~~

~~(ii) measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample; and~~

~~(iii) determining the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid by correlating the~~

amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid to the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample ~~The method of claim 1~~, wherein measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample comprises:

(a) contacting the sample either simultaneously or stepwise with a first antibody which binds selectively to multimeric vitronectin and a labelled second antibody which binds selectively to PAI-1 ; and

(b) determining the second antibody bound to the complex to measure the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample.

4. (Currently amended) A method for determining active plasminogen activator inhibitor-Type 1 (PAI-1) in a biological fluid, the method comprising the steps of:

(i) providing a sample of a biological fluid selected from the group consisting of whole blood, plasma and serum;

(ii) measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample; and

(iii) determining the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid by correlating the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid to the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample ~~The method of claim 1~~, wherein measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample comprises:

(a) contacting the sample either simultaneously or stepwise with a first antibody which binds selectively to PAI-1 and a labelled second antibody which binds selectively to multimeric vitronectin to form an active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin/first antibody/second antibody complex;

(b) separating said active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin/first antibody/second antibody complex from the sample; and

(c) determining the second antibody bound to the complex to measure the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample.

5. (Currently amended) A method for determining active plasminogen activator inhibitor-Type 1 (PAI-1) in a biological fluid, the method comprising the steps of:

(i) providing a sample of a biological fluid selected from the group consisting of whole blood, plasma and serum;

(ii) measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample; and

(iii) determining the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid by correlating the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid to the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample ~~The method of claim 1~~, wherein measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample comprises:

a) contacting the sample either simultaneously or stepwise with a first antibody which binds selectively to multimeric vitronectin and a labelled second antibody which binds selectively to PAI-1 to form an active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin/first antibody/second antibody complex;

(b) separating said active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin/first antibody/second antibody complex from the sample; and

(c) determining the second antibody bound to the complex to measure the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample.

6. (Currently amended) A method for determining active plasminogen activator inhibitor-Type 1 (PAI-1) in a biological fluid, the method comprising the steps of:

(i) providing a sample of a biological fluid selected from the group consisting of whole blood, plasma and serum;

(ii) measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample; and

(iii) determining the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid by correlating the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid to the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample ~~The method of claim 1~~, wherein measuring the amount of

active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample comprises:

(a) simultaneously contacting the sample with a first antibody which binds selectively to PAI-1, the first antibody being immobilized on a solid support, and with a labelled second antibody which binds selectively to multimeric vitronectin; and

(b) determining the second antibody bound to the solid support to measure the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample.

7. (Currently amended) A method for determining active plasminogen activator inhibitor-Type 1 (PAI-1) in a biological fluid, the method comprising the steps of:

(i) providing a sample of a biological fluid selected from the group consisting of whole blood, plasma and serum;

(ii) measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample; and

(iii) determining the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid by correlating the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid to the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample ~~The method of claim 1~~, wherein measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample comprises:

(a) contacting the sample with a first antibody which binds selectively to PAI-1, the first antibody being immobilized on a solid support;

(b) contacting the solid support with a labelled second antibody which binds selectively to multimeric vitronectin; and

(c) determining the second antibody bound to the solid support to measure the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample.

8. (Currently amended) A method for determining active plasminogen activator inhibitor-Type 1 (PAI-1) in a biological fluid, the method comprising the steps of:

(i) providing a sample of a biological fluid selected from the group consisting of whole blood, plasma and serum;

(ii) measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample; and

(iii) determining the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid by correlating the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid to the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample ~~The method of claim 1~~, wherein measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample comprises:

(a) simultaneously contacting the sample with a first antibody which binds selectively to multimeric vitronectin, the first antibody being immobilized on a solid support, and with a labelled second antibody which binds selectively to PAI-1; and

(b) determining the second antibody bound to the solid support to measure the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample.

9. (Currently amended) ~~A method for determining active plasminogen activator inhibitor-Type 1 (PAI-1) in a biological fluid, the method comprising the steps of:~~

(i) providing a sample of a biological fluid selected from the group consisting of whole blood, plasma and serum;

(ii) measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample; and

(iii) determining the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid by correlating the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid to the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample ~~The method of claim 1~~, wherein measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample comprises:

(a) contacting the sample with a first antibody which binds selectively to multimeric vitronectin, the first antibody being immobilized on a solid support;

(b) contacting the solid support with a labelled second antibody which binds selectively to PAI-1; and

(c) determining the second antibody bound to the solid support to measure the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample.

10. (Currently amended) ~~A method for determining active plasminogen activator inhibitor-Type 1 (PAI-1) in a biological fluid, the method comprising the steps of:~~

~~(i) providing a sample of a biological fluid selected from the group consisting of whole blood, plasma and serum;~~

~~(ii) measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample; and~~

~~(iii) determining the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid by correlating the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid to the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample~~ ~~The method of claim 1~~, wherein measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample comprises:

(a) contacting the sample with a first antibody which binds selectively to PAI-1, the first antibody being immobilized on a solid support;

(b) contacting the solid support with a second antibody which binds selectively to multimeric vitronectin;

(c) contacting the solid support with a labelled third antibody which binds selectively to the second antibody; and

(d) determining the third antibody bound to the solid support to measure the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample.

11. (Currently amended) ~~A method for determining active plasminogen activator inhibitor-Type 1 (PAI-1) in a biological fluid, the method comprising the steps of:~~

~~(i) providing a sample of a biological fluid selected from the group consisting of whole blood, plasma and serum;~~

~~(ii) measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample; and~~

~~(iii) determining the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid by correlating the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid to the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric~~

vitronectin complex in the sample. ~~The method of claim 1~~, wherein measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample comprises:

(a) contacting the sample with a first antibody which binds selectively to multimeric vitronectin, the first antibody being immobilized on a solid support;

(b) contacting the solid support with a second antibody which binds selectively to PAI- 1;

(c) contacting the solid support with a labelled third antibody which binds selectively to the second antibody; and

(d) determining the third antibody bound to the solid support to measure the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample.

12. (Currently amended) ~~A method for determining active plasminogen activator inhibitor-Type 1 (PAI-1) in a biological fluid, the method comprising the steps of:~~

~~(i) providing a sample of a biological fluid selected from the group consisting of whole blood, plasma and serum;~~

~~(ii) measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample; and~~

~~(iii) determining the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid by correlating the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid to the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample, The method of claim 1,~~ wherein measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample comprises:

(a) contacting the sample, either simultaneously or stepwise, with a first antibody which binds selectively to PAI-1 and to which is attached one member of a capture pair and with a labelled second antibody which binds selectively to multimeric vitronectin to form a mixture;

(b) contacting the mixture with a solid support on which is immobilized the other member of the capture pair; and

(c) determining the second antibody bound to the solid support to measure the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample.

13. (Currently amended) A method for determining active plasminogen activator inhibitor-Type 1 (PAI-1) in a biological fluid, the method comprising the steps of:

(i) providing a sample of a biological fluid selected from the group consisting of whole blood, plasma and serum;

(ii) measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample; and

(iii) determining the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid by correlating the amount of active PAI-1 in the biological fluid to the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample ~~The method of claim 1~~, wherein measuring the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample comprises:

(a) contacting the sample either simultaneously or stepwise, with a first antibody which binds selectively to multimeric vitronectin and to which is attached one member of a capture pair and with a labelled second antibody which binds selectively to PAI-1 to form a mixture;

(b) contacting the mixture with a solid support on which is immobilized the other member of the capture pair; and

(c) determining the second antibody bound to the solid support to measure the amount of active PAI-1/multimeric vitronectin complex in the sample.

14-15. (Canceled).

16. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the second antibody is labelled with a directly detectable label.

17. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the second antibody is labelled with a component of a signal-generating system.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the component is an enzyme selected from the group consisting of alkaline phosphatase, amylase, luciferase, catalase,

beta-galactosidase, glucose oxidase, glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase, hexokinase, horseradish peroxidase, lactamase, urease and malate dehydrogenase.

19. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the second antibody is labelled with a fluorophore.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the fluorophore is selected from the group consisting of a coumarin, a rare earth metal ion, chelate or chelate complex, a fluorescein, rhodamine and a rhodamine derivative.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the second antibody is labelled with a luminescent material.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the luminescent material is selected from the group consisting of a cyclic diacyl hydrazide, luminol, isoluminol, an acridinium ester, a pyridopyridazine, a dioxerane, a bioluminescent protein and a luciferase.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the second antibody is labelled with a label selected from the group consisting of a metal complex, a stable free radical, a vesicle, a liposome, a colloidal particle, a latex particle, a spin label, biotin and avidin.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the solid support is selected from the group consisting of an ELISA plate, a polyacrylamide matrix, a polystyrene tube, polystyrene beads, latex particles, paramagnetic particles, acrylic particles and gelatin particles.

25-33. (Canceled).